AWE Computer Project
2008
Guidelines

The Indiana State Library is currently accepting applications for Advanced Workstations in Education (AWE) computer systems. The purpose of the AWE computer project is to enhance the early literacy efforts already being offered in Indiana's libraries.

1. Who may apply?

Preference will be given to public libraries; however, other libraries may apply. Entities other than libraries must partner with a library in order to apply. In addition, all applicants must have early literacy initiatives in place before October 15, 2008.

2. How many AWE computers can a library receive?

The number of AWE computers a library receives is dependant upon total demand and population served. Libraries may apply for up to three (3) computers.

Libraries that already own AWE computers are welcome to apply for additional computers.

3. What is included with the AWE computers?
- CPU loaded with 24 English language and 24 Spanish language educational titles
- 19 inch flat screen monitor
- Keyboard
- Child-size mouse
- Three-year warranty
- Epson ink-jet printer
- Training session by AWE representative

4. What is the basis for selecting recipients?

Applications must be completed and typed to be considered for selection. Libraries must also have early literacy initiative in places to be considered. Preference will be shown for libraries with high numbers of students eligible for free or reduced lunch in the school district(s) the library serves. Libraries that also promote the new computers in creative or innovative ways will also receive preference. Libraries chosen to receive computers will agree to conduct two survey patrons about school readiness, provide usage statistics, and promote the computers through newsletters, flyers, press releases and other mediums.

5. What is application and review process?

The application consists of a standard form located at http://www.in.gov/library/6418.htm.   The form is available in both PDF and Excel formats. Additional sheets may be used if needed.

All applications must be postmarked by October 20, 2008. Applications postmarked after that date will not be accepted. Send one original application and one copy to:

Michele Farley
Children's Services Consultant
Indiana State Library
140 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Only complete applications will be considered. Announcement of recipients will be made within one month of receipt by letter to the applicants.

6. How will libraries receive the AWE computers?

Computers will be shipped directly to the awardees.

7. What reports must recipients make?

The following surveys and reports must be compiled and sent to the Indiana State Library for the project's final report:

Recipients will be required to survey patrons twice about school readiness: once before the computers are installed and again after the computers have been installed for nine (9) months. After each survey is completed they *must* be forwarded to the Children's Services Consultant at the Indiana State Library.

The surveys must include the following questions:
- Age of child
- How often the child participates in library programs
- Does the child visually recognize the letters of the alphabet?
- How familiar the child is with using a computer
- Does the child attend preschool or other organized educational programming?

Libraries may include questions in addition to those listed.

In addition to the surveys, libraries must provide usage statistics for the computers. Statistics must include:

- Number of log-ins per month, separated by language
- The top 5 programs used each month

Libraries may track statistics in addition to those required.

Libraries are also asked to provide any anecdotal information received from patrons or staff members regarding the use of the computers.

The timeline for the project is as follows:

October 20, 2008   Applications due
November 2008   Applicants notified of award and contracts sent to applicants
December 2008   First school readiness survey completed
December 2008   Libraries receive computers
August 2009   Second school readiness survey completed
September 30, 2009 Final report due

Questions should be directed to the staff of the Professional Development Office of the Indiana State Library:

   Wendy Knapp at 317-232-3718 or wknapp@library.in.gov
   Michele Farley at 317-234-5649 or mfarley@library.in.gov